



'Enabling every child to fulfil his/her potential in a nurturing Christian environment.'

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

Dear Parents and Carers

As you will remember from our letter in December, we are looking forward to the election of our new Governing Body and are keen for parents to work with us to represent our community.

We have had a slight delay in our schedule as when we last wrote, we had no idea that the first two weeks of this term would unfold in quite the way they have, but we are delighted to have had several inquiries from parents are keen to get back on track with the elections.

Please find attached to this letter further information about the Role of Parent Governor and a nomination form to be completed and returned to Mrs Wright via the school admin email address by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January please.

So that our new Governing Body has some colleagues who know the school and are familiar with school Governance, Andy Canham has agreed to Chair Utkinton Local Governing Body until the end of this academic year. Andy has previously been a parent Governor for 6 years and is now a Local Authority Governor and also Chair of Governors at Elton Primary School. He has a specific skillset and interest in finance and resources, standards and SEND and is also a Parish Councillor in his village.

Also continuing in his post on our Governing Body is Mark Whitehill. A previous Headteacher in schools in Wirral and Cheshire, Mark is now Chester Diocese School Effectiveness Officer and has a great deal of school leadership and governance knowledge and experience to assist Utkinton. With the support of Andy and Mark we will have great wisdom to guide us as we establish our new Governing Body so that we can move forward independently with confidence.

Parents and carers can either nominate themselves or another parent (with their consent!) and should include a paragraph about their own skillset and how they feel this can benefit Utkinton school and community to move forward. As this is a brand new Local Governing Body we are growing our skillset; but as an idea for what Governors will discuss and monitor, meetings and school visits will focus on some of the following areas of school life:

- Staffing and resources
- Budgeting and financial planning
- Performance data and standards
- Christian Distinctiveness
- Strategy and policy
- Communication between school and community
- Disadvantaged pupils and SEND





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## Qualifications to serve as a governor

A governor must be aged 18 or over at the time of his/her election or appointment

A person is disqualified from holding or continuing to hold office as a governor if he or she:

- is subject to a bankruptcy restriction order, an interim bankruptcy restrictions order, a debt relief restrictions order or an interim debt relief restrictions order;
- has had his/her estate sequestrated and the sequestration has not been discharged, annulled or reduced;
- is subject to:
  - a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under the Company Directors Act 1986
  - a disqualification order under the Companies Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
  - a disqualification undertaking accepted under the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
  - an order made under section 429(2)(b) of the Insolvency Act 1986 (failure to pay under a county court administration order);
- has been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission or Commissioners or High Court on the grounds of any misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of the charity, or under section 34 of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 from being concerned in the management or control of any body;
- is included in the list of people considered by the Secretary of State as unsuitable to work with children;
- is disqualified from working with children or subject to a direction under section 142 of the Education Act 2002;
- is disqualified from working with children under sections 28,29, or 29A of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000;
- is disqualified from registration under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 for child minding or providing day care;
- is disqualified from registration under Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006;
- has received a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of not less than 3 months (without the option of a fine) in the 5 years before or since becoming a governor;
- has received a prison sentence of 2½ years or more in the 20 years before becoming a governor;
- has at any time received a prison sentence of 5 years or more;
- has been convicted under section 547 of EA 1996 (nuisance or disturbance on school premises) or under section 85A of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 (nuisance or disturbance on educational premise) during the 5 years prior to or since appointment or election as a governor;
- is employed at the school for more than 500 hours per academic year if wishing to stand for parent governor at the same school;
- is an elected member of the Local Authority (applies to parent and community governors only);
- has refused a request by the clerk to the governing body to make an application under section 113B of the Police Act 1997 for a criminal records certificate
- has been disqualified from holding office as a governor of this school due to failure to attend governing body meetings for a continuous period of six months



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## Expectations of each member of the Local Governing Body

As a governor you will be expected to:

- be supportive of the Christian ethos of the academy;
- be committed to the development of every child in the academy
- take a full and active role in the work of the Local Governing Body (LGB);
- attend all governing body meetings and committee meetings as necessary;
- prepare for meetings by reading papers beforehand
- attend training in order to develop governor skills and knowledge;
- work in partnership with CDAT, the Principal, and co-operatively with other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children
- be prepared to challenge professionals as appropriate to ensure the best outcomes for the children in the school;
- know the school in terms of its strengths and weakness and be able to articulate this;
- listen to the views of parents but always act through the work of the LGB;
- be loyal to the decisions made by the LGB;
- ensure confidentiality and act at all times with integrity;
- promote the interests of the academy in the wider community



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## NOMINATION FORM FOR THE ELECTION OF PARENT GOVERNOR(S)

<b>Name:</b>
<b>Address:</b>
<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Name of child/ren at the school</b>
<b>Pen Portrait (maximum 100 words)</b> Please include a reference to your skills and/or experience of any of the areas noted as these are the particular skills/experience the Local Governing Body currently requires.
I wish to submit my nomination for the election of Parent Governor and confirm (i) that I am willing to stand as a candidate for election as a parent governor, (ii) that I am not disqualified from holding office for any of the reasons and am willing to undertake a DBS check. <b>Signature:</b>
<b>Date:</b>